THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and tc) No. Soft drinks in 250 ml. and 300 ml. bottles are not considered close to each other and hence the difference between them is not difficult to differentiate.

Competition faced by CTL

1772. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SrfAR-MA: Will the Minister of COAL be Pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, Indone sian and Australian companies have al ready out-priced Coal India Ltd. in the global market and it now faces grim prospect of severe competition at home;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the steel plants forced to cut cost of production, are now increas ingly switching over to imported coal be
cause of its low ash content; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Coal India Ltd. to contain this situa tion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJ1T KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Indian coal is being exported only to neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh. India is not a major exporter of coal. In the domestic market indigenous coal producing companies will face competition from imported coal as well as falling coal prices in international market,

(c) Existing supply *o'* coking coal from indigenous sources is not adequate to meet the full demand of steel plants. Imports of low ash coking coal is also being resorted to for blending with indi-genous coking coal for quality improve-ment.

(d) A committee consisting of Technical Experts from Ministries of Coal and Steel was constituted, which has recom-raede-d steps to be taken for progressive reduction of imports of coking coal.

These recommendations inter-alia in-clude setting up of new washeries, carry-ing cut modifications to existing washe-ries, augmenting production of coking coal irom existing and new mines and making available better quality coking coals Irom Assam and Meghalaya. Pri-vate entrepreneurs are also to be encou-raged to set up washeries to supplement the supplies.

Coal exclusiverly for public sector

1773. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHAR-MA: Will the Minister of COAL be plea
sed to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that according to Industrial policy statement of July 1991, coal is exclusively for public sec-tor;

(b) whether it is also a fact- that coal production has increased from 77.22 MT in 1973 to 238 MT in 1993;

(c) whether the policy statement is a factor which prohibits participation of the private enterprise in this sector; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose
to review its approach in this matter and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and .(b) Yes
Sir.

(c) and (d) Government have since amended Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 w.e.f. 9.6.1993. The Act as of now, allows private sector participation in coal mining operations for captive consumption for power generation, pro-duction of iron & Steel, washery opera-tions and other end uses that may be notified by the Government.

Funds provided to BCCL for' education

1774. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PIL LA.I: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state;

(a) how much funds are being provid-ed to the management of BCCL in the edueitaon account by Government; and

(b) the details of the expenditure of that fund

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) There is no allocation of funds on education from Ministry of Coal to Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL).

According to Coal India Ltd. (CIL), the expenditure incurred by BCCL *tor* education purposes during 1993-94 was Rs. 1.26 crore*.

Foreign entrepreneurs to set up coal washeries in the country

1773. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA; Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to invite foreign entrepreneurs to set up coal washeries in India.

(b) if so, the details of the scheme, locations and terms and conditions for Indian and the foreign enterpreneurs with names thereof;

(c) th6 type of grade of run-of mine coal proposed to bo supplied to such washeries and the proposed reduction in the ash content by the washeries; and

(d) the likely unit price of the washed coal, the pricing mechanism and the manner in which returns are ensured to the washeries?

THE MINIST RY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Coal India has floated a global tender inviting foreign as well as Indian parties for setting the coal washerj$_{es}$ on build-own-opera:e basis.

Under the bdld-own-operate scheme,

the parties hav. to invest, design, ins-tal, operate ma aain and own the plant, Coal India Lin-, wd is to provide the land for the pi at on lease, construction power and contraction water on a charge basis.

The general terms and conditions are:

(6) The investor will finance, build, operate, maintain and own the Plant.

(ii) The rav. coal and washed products will be the property of CIL and washed produjts will bo marketed by CIL;

(iii) The parameters of raw coal and washed prod ets including percentage yield will be fixed.

(iv) Reaosc aabLj conversion cost including a fair rate of return per tonne of washed coal will be paid to the successful investor.

(v) There will be suitable bonus/penalty clauses for the yield, quantity and quality o' washed coal.

(vi) There will be suitable bonus/ penalty clause- for early/late commissioning of the Plant.

Run-of-Mine coal supplied to such tentative locations of proposed washeries and coal quality details are given below:

name of wishery	Location	Qiality of Riw Coal(Ash%)	Quality of Washed Coal (Ash%)
Kalinga .	Orissa	41.0	34
Ananta-flharatpur	Orissa	40.3	34
Dipka	M. P.	38.0	34
Sastri	Maharashtra	34.0	27.5+0.5
Parej	Bihar	34.0	17.0+0.5
Tikok	Assam	26.6	9.0
Dhori	Bihar	Beyond 35.0	17.0+0.5 —Clean Coal-I 25.0 • Clean Coal-II